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A

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Agenda item 72

RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

[on the report of the First Committee (A/48/677)]

48/76. Review and implementation of the Concluding Document of the Twelfth Special Session of the General Assembly

A

Regional confidence-building measures

The General Assembly,

Recalling the purposes and principles of the United Nations and its primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations,

Bearing in mind the guidelines for general and complete disarmament adopted at its tenth special session, the first special session devoted to disarmament,

Recalling also its resolutions 43/78 H and 43/85 of 7 December 1988, 44/21 of 15 November 1989, 45/58 M of 4 December 1990, 46/37 B of 6 December 1991 and 47/53 F of 15 December 1992,

Considering the importance and effectiveness of confidence-building measures taken at the initiative and with the participation of all States concerned and taking into account the specific characteristics of each region, in that they can contribute to regional disarmament and to international security, in accordance with the principles of the Charter,

Convinced that the resources released by disarmament, including regional disarmament, can be devoted to economic and social development and to the protection of the environment for the benefit of all peoples, in particular those of the developing countries,

Bearing in mind the establishment by the Secretary-General on 28 May 1992 of the Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa, the purpose of which is to encourage arms limitation, disarmament, non-proliferation and development in the subregion,

1. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General on regional confidence-building measures, 1/ which deals chiefly with the meetings of the Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa, held at Bujumbura in March 1993 and at Libreville in August and September 1993;

2. Reaffirms its support for efforts aimed at promoting confidence-building measures at the regional and subregional levels in order to ease regional tensions and to further disarmament, non-proliferation and the peaceful settlement of disputes in Central Africa;

3. Also reaffirms its support for the programme of work of the Standing Advisory Committee adopted at the organizational meeting of the Committee held at Yaoundé from 27 to 31 July 1992;

4. Welcomes the results of the meetings of the Standing Advisory Committee held at Bujumbura and at Libreville, particularly the adoption of the non-aggression pact between the States members of the Economic Community of Central African States, a pact that is likely to contribute to the prevention of conflicts and to confidence-building in the subregion;

5. Takes note of the readiness of the States members of the Economic Community of Central African States to reduce the military forces, equipment and budgets in the subregion and to carry out a study on that subject;

6. Requests the Secretary-General to continue to provide assistance to the Central African States in implementing the programme of work of the Standing Advisory Committee;

7. Also requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its forty-ninth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

8. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-ninth session the item entitled "Regional confidence-building measures".

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1/ A/48/412.

B

Convention on the Prohibition of the Use of Nuclear Weapons

The General Assembly,

Convinced that the use of nuclear weapons poses the most serious threat to the survival of mankind,

Convinced also that a multilateral agreement prohibiting the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons should strengthen international security and contribute to the climate for negotiations leading to the ultimate elimination of nuclear weapons,

Welcoming the Treaty between the United States of America and the Russian Federation on Further Reduction and Limitation of Strategic Offensive Arms, signed at Moscow on 3 January 1993, aimed at reducing the strategic arsenals to an aggregate level not to exceed 3,500 deployed strategic warheads for each side no later than the year 2003,

Conscious that the recent steps taken by the Russian Federation and the United States of America towards a reduction of their nuclear weapons and the improvement in the international climate can contribute towards the goal of complete elimination of nuclear weapons,

Recalling that, in paragraph 58 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly, 2/ it is stated that all States should actively participate in efforts to bring about conditions in international relations among States in which a code of peaceful conduct of nations in international affairs could be agreed upon and that would preclude the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons,

Reaffirming that any use of nuclear weapons would be a violation of the Charter of the United Nations and a crime against humanity, as declared in its resolutions 1653 (XVI) of 24 November 1961, 33/71 B of 14 December 1978, 34/83 G of 11 December 1979, 35/152 D of 12 December 1980 and 36/92 I of 9 December 1981,

Stressing that an international convention would be a step towards the complete elimination of nuclear weapons leading to general and complete disarmament under strict and effective international control,

Noting with regret that the Conference on Disarmament, during its 1993 session, was unable to undertake negotiations on this subject,

1. Reiterates its request to the Conference on Disarmament to commence negotiations, as a matter of priority, in order to reach agreement on an international convention prohibiting the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons under any circumstances, taking as a possible basis the draft Convention on the Prohibition of the Use of Nuclear Weapons annexed to the present resolution;

2/ Resolution S-10/2.

2. Requests the Conference on Disarmament to report to the General Assembly on the results of those negotiations.

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Annex

DRAFT CONVENTION ON THE PROHIBITION OF THE USE OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS

The States Parties to this Convention,

Alarmed by the threat to the very survival of mankind posed by the existence of nuclear weapons,

Convinced that any use of nuclear weapons constitutes a violation of the Charter of the United Nations and a crime against humanity,

Convinced also that this Convention would be a step towards the complete elimination of nuclear weapons leading to general and complete disarmament under strict and effective international control,

Determined to continue negotiations for the achievement of this goal,

Have agreed as follows:

Article 1

The States Parties to this Convention solemnly undertake not to use or threaten to use nuclear weapons under any circumstances.

Article 2

This Convention shall be of unlimited duration.

Article 3

1. This Convention shall be open to all States for signature. Any State that does not sign the Convention before its entry into force in accordance with paragraph 3 of this article may accede to it at any time.

2. This Convention shall be subject to ratification by signatory States. Instruments of ratification or accession shall be deposited with the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

3. This Convention shall enter into force on the deposit of instruments of ratification by twenty-five Governments, including the Governments of the five nuclear-weapon States, in accordance with paragraph 2 of this article.

4. For States whose instruments of ratification or accession are deposited after the entry into force of the Convention, it shall enter into force on the date of the deposit of their instruments of ratification or accession.

5. The depositary shall promptly inform all signatory and acceding States of the date of each signature, the date of deposit of each instrument of ratification or accession and the date of the entry into force of this Convention, as well as of the receipt of other notices.

6. This Convention shall be registered by the depositary in accordance with Article 102 of the Charter of the United Nations.

Article 4

This Convention, of which the Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish texts are equally authentic, shall be deposited with the Secretary-General of the United Nations, who shall send duly certified copies thereof to the Government of the signatory and acceding States.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned, being duly authorized thereto by their respective Governments, have signed this Convention, opened for signature at _____ on the _____ day of _____ one thousand nine hundred and _____.

C

United Nations disarmament fellowship, training and advisory services programme

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations disarmament fellowship, training and advisory services programme, 3/

Recalling its decision, contained in paragraph 108 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly, 2/ the first special session devoted to disarmament, to establish a programme of fellowships on disarmament, as well as its decisions contained in annex IV to the Concluding Document of the Twelfth Special Session of the General Assembly, 4/ the second special session devoted to disarmament, in which it decided, inter alia, to continue the programme,

Noting with satisfaction that the programme has already trained an appreciable number of public officials selected from geographical regions represented in the United Nations system, most of whom are now in positions of responsibility in the field of disarmament affairs in their respective countries or Governments,

Recalling also its resolutions 37/100 G of 13 December 1982, 38/73 C of 15 December 1983, 39/63 B of 12 December 1984, 40/151 H of 16 December 1985, 41/60 H of 3 December 1986, 42/39 I of 30 November 1987, 43/76 F of 7 December

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3/ A/48/469.

4/ See Official Records of the General Assembly, Twelfth Special Session, Annexes, agenda items 9 to 13, document A/S-12/32.

1988, 44/117 E of 15 December 1989, 45/59 A of 4 December 1990, 46/37 E of 6 December 1991 and 47/53 A of 9 December 1992,

Noting also with satisfaction that the programme, as designed, has enabled an increased number of public officials, particularly from the developing countries, to acquire more expertise in the sphere of disarmament,

Believing that the forms of assistance available to Member States, particularly to developing countries, under the programme will enhance the capabilities of their officials to follow ongoing deliberations and negotiations on disarmament, both bilateral and multilateral,

1. Reaffirms its decisions contained in annex IV to the Concluding Document of the Twelfth Special Session of the General Assembly and the report of the Secretary-General 5/ approved by resolution 33/71 E of 14 December 1978;

2. Expresses its appreciation to the Governments of Finland, Germany, Japan and Sweden for inviting the 1993 fellows to study selected activities in the field of disarmament, thereby contributing to the fulfilment of the overall objectives of the programme;

3. Notes with satisfaction that, within the framework of the programme, the Office for Disarmament Affairs of the Secretariat organizes regional disarmament workshops for Africa, Asia and the Pacific, and Latin America and the Caribbean;

4. Commends the Secretary-General for the diligence with which the programme has continued to be carried out;

5. Requests the Secretary-General to continue the implementation of the Geneva-based programme within existing resources and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its forty-ninth session.

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D

United Nations Disarmament Information Programme

The General Assembly,

Recalling its decision taken in 1982 at its twelfth special session, the second special session devoted to disarmament, by which the World Disarmament Campaign was launched, 6/

5/ A/33/305.

6/ See Official Records of the General Assembly, Twelfth Special Session, Plenary Meetings, 1st meeting, paras. 110 and 111.

Bearing in mind its various resolutions on the subject, including resolution 47/53 D of 9 December 1992 in which it decided, inter alia, that the World Disarmament Campaign should be known thereafter as the "United Nations Disarmament Information Programme" and the World Disarmament Campaign Voluntary Trust Fund as the "Voluntary Trust Fund for the United Nations Disarmament Information Programme",

Having examined the reports of the Secretary-General of 24 August 1993 on the United Nations Disarmament Information Programme, 7/ and of 22 September 1993 on the Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters relating to the implementation of the Disarmament Information Programme, 8/ as well as the Final Act of the Eleventh United Nations Pledging Conference for the Programme, 9/ held on 29 October 1993,

Noting with appreciation the contributions that Member States have already made to the Programme,

1. Welcomes the report of the Secretary-General of 24 August 1993 on the United Nations Disarmament Information Programme; 7/

2. Commends the Secretary-General for his efforts to make effective use of the resources available to him in disseminating as widely as possible information on arms limitation and disarmament to elected officials, the media, non-governmental organizations, educational communities and research institutes, and in carrying out an active seminar and conference programme;

3. Notes with appreciation the contributions to the efforts of the Programme by the United Nations information centres and the regional centres for disarmament;

4. Recommends that the Programme should further focus its efforts:

(a) To inform, to educate and to generate public understanding of the importance of and support for multilateral action, including action by the United Nations and the Conference on Disarmament, in the field of arms limitation and disarmament, in a factual, balanced and objective manner;

(b) To facilitate unimpeded access to and an exchange of information on ideas between the public sector and public interest groups and organizations, and to provide an independent source of balanced and factual information that takes into account a range of views to help further an informed debate on arms limitation, disarmament and security;

(c) To organize meetings to facilitate exchanges of views and information between governmental and non-governmental sectors and between governmental and other experts in order to facilitate the search for common ground;

7/ A/48/326.

8/ A/48/325.

9/ See A/CONF.170/L.2.

5. Invites all Member States to contribute to the Voluntary Trust Fund for the United Nations Disarmament Information Programme;

6. Commends the Secretary-General for supporting the efforts of universities, other academic institutions and non-governmental organizations active in the educational field in widening the world-wide availability of disarmament education, and invites him to continue to support and cooperate, without cost to the regular budget of the United Nations, with educational institutions and non-governmental organizations engaged in such efforts;

7. Decides that at its forty-ninth session there should be a twelfth United Nations Pledging Conference for the United Nations Disarmament Information Programme, and expresses the hope that on that occasion all those Member States which have not yet announced any voluntary contributions will do so, bearing in mind the objectives of the Third Disarmament Decade 10/ and the need to ensure its success;

8. Requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its forty-ninth session a report covering both the implementation of the activities of the Programme by the United Nations system during 1994 and the activities of the Programme contemplated by the system for 1995;

9. Also decides to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-ninth session the item entitled "United Nations Disarmament Information Programme".

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E

United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa, United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific and United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 40/151 G of 16 December 1985, 41/60 D of 3 December 1986, 42/39 J of 30 November 1987 and 43/76 D of 7 December 1988 on the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa, 41/60 J of 3 December 1986, 42/39 K of 30 November 1987 and 43/76 H of 7 December 1988 on the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean, 42/39 D of 30 November 1987 and 43/76 G of 7 December 1988 on the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia, 44/117 F of 15 December 1989, 45/59 E of 4 December 1990 and 46/37 F of 9 December 1991 and its decision 47/421 of 9 December 1992 on the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa, the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific and the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean,

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10/ See resolution 45/62 A, annex.

Reaffirming its resolutions 46/36 F of 6 December 1991 and 47/52 G of 9 December 1992 on regional disarmament, including confidence-building measures,

Mindful of the provisions of Article 11, paragraph 1, of the Charter of the United Nations stipulating that a function of the General Assembly is to consider the general principles of cooperation in the maintenance of international peace and security, including the principles governing disarmament and arms limitation,

Bearing in mind that the changed international environment has created new opportunities for the pursuit of disarmament, as well as posed new challenges,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General containing the steps taken to strengthen the Office for Disarmament Affairs, 11/

Convinced that the initiatives and activities mutually agreed upon by Member States of the respective regions aimed at fostering confidence, as well as the implementation and coordination of regional activities under the United Nations Disarmament Information Programme, would encourage and facilitate the development of effective measures of confidence-building, arms limitation and disarmament in these regions,

Welcoming the programme of activities carried out by the regional centres, which have contributed substantially to understanding and cooperation among the States in each particular region and have thereby strengthened the role assigned to each regional centre in the areas of peace, disarmament and development,

Taking note of the views on the regional centres contained in the report of the Secretary-General on the Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters, 8/

Recognizing the need to provide the regional centres with financial viability and stability so as to facilitate the effective planning and implementation of their respective programmes of activities,

Expressing its gratitude to the Member States and international governmental and non-governmental organizations and foundations that have contributed to the trust funds of the three regional centres,

1. Commends the activities being carried out by the regional centres in identifying and broadening the understanding of pressing disarmament and security issues, and exploring optimum solutions under given specific conditions prevailing in each region, in accordance with their mandates;

2. Encourages the regional centres to continue intensifying their efforts in promoting cooperation among the States in their respective regions to facilitate the development of effective measures of confidence-building, arms limitation and disarmament, with a view to strengthening peace and security;

11/ A/48/358.

3. Encourages also further use of the potential of the regional centres to maintain the increased interest in and momentum for revitalization of the Organization to meet the challenges of a new phase of international relations in order to fulfil the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations related to peace, disarmament and development, taking into account the guidelines and recommendations for regional approaches to disarmament within the context of global security as adopted by the Disarmament Commission at its 1993 substantive session; 12/

4. Appeals once again to Member States, as well as to international governmental and non-governmental organizations and foundations, to make voluntary contributions in order to strengthen the programmes of activities of the regional centres and their effective implementation;

5. Requests the Secretary-General to continue to provide all necessary support to the regional centres in carrying out their programmes of activities;

6. Also requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its forty-ninth session on the implementation of the present resolution;

7. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-ninth session the item entitled "United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa, United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific and United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean".

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12/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 42 (A/48/42), annex II.